City of Lafayette
City Council Special Meeting
Redevelopment Agency Special Meeting
ACTION MINUTES

Lafayette Community Center **June 1, 2009**
500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette, California **6:30 pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tatzin called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members: Mayor Tatzin, Vice-Mayor Andersson, Councilmembers Anderson, Federighi

Absent: Council Members: Anduri

Staff: Steven Falk, City Manager; Ann Merideth, Community Development Director; Joanne Robbins, City Clerk

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

ACTION: It was M/S/C to adopt the agenda. Vote: 3-0-2 (Ayes: Tatzin, Andersson, Anderson, Noes: None; Absent: Anduri, Federighi).

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

5. OLD BUSINESS

Continued consideration of the Draft Lafayette Downtown Strategy and Specific Plan

Shield Block

Community Development Director Ann Merideth presented staff recommendations.

Public comments on Shield Block and process: Geoff Bellenger, Joan Bruzzone, Guy Atwood, Don Lively, Susan Callister, Eliot Hudson

The Council discussed the Shield Block and process, and agreed to the following regarding the Shield Block:

- Include the following principles:
  - Mount Diablo Boulevard at Lafayette Circle West: Removal of P1 from the Plan.

- Creek C2: Creek enhancement to continue the path from the BART station into the Lafayette Circle area while recognizing potential regulatory constraints.

- Town Green on Lafayette Circle:
  - An open space / gathering are, rather than a multi-use park at the northeast side of Happy Valley Creek at the east side of Lafayette Circle (Park P2);
  - Protection of existing oak trees;
  - Design to integrate creekside setting, retail location and possible event space; and
  - If gallery becomes available, consider for public space at that time (in text only).

- Uses: Retail uses along Lafayette Circle and residential, office and restaurant uses along the creek.

- Parking: Providing at least the same number of redeveloped public spaces as the current number, and providing the number of private spaces to meet required parking standards.

- Revise the graphics on page 7-7 to illustrate the principles.

The Council discussed the streetscape cross-sections and East End improvements. Community Development Director Merideth said both, including safety issues, will be addressed in the EIR and Revised Draft Plan.

Priorities for Public Improvements

City Manager Steve Falk and Community Development Director Ann Merideth presented staff recommendations.

Public comments on priorities for public improvements: Guy Atwood, George Burtt, Jay Lifson

The City Council discussed priorities, and agreed to the following:

- Parking structure in expanded Target Zone A that would provide parking for downtown employees to an area that encompasses the freeway to the north, Second Street to the east, just beyond Brook Street to the south, and Dewing Avenue to the west.

- Sidewalk gap closures meeting the following standards:
  - The concept is not sidewalks, but pedestrian walkways.
  - Walkways can be meandering, delineated surface striping where appropriate.
  - Pedestrian improvements not necessary everywhere there are gaps.
  - Improvements that are ADA-compliant, including adequate width, benches, should be made where needed.
  - Improvements should be made as part of adjacent private development.

- East End improvements, including parking, landscaping and modest medians, as a concept for further discussion with property owners and businesses.

- Library Park (in conjunction with adjacent private development).
- Shield Block improvements (in conjunction with adjacent private development).
- Long-term: Community facility in the downtown area to serve demonstrated needs of seniors, teens, other demographic groups.

Plan Organization

Community Development Director Ann Merideth presented staff recommendations. The Council discussed Plan organization.

Public comments on Plan organization and process: Guy Atwood, Geoff Bellenger, George Burtt, Susan Callister, Eliot Hudson

The Council further discussed Plan organization and process, and agreed to the following:

- Reorganize the Plan to be more consistent with standard specific plan outlines and to avoid repetition of information.
- The Planning Commission will determine the EIR alternatives to include lower intensity, higher intensity and no project.

ACTION: It was M/S/C to form an ad hoc committee to review and revise staff recommendations on conditions for incorporation into the Revised Draft Plan. Vote: 3-1-1 (Ayes: Andersson, Anderson, Federighi; Noes: Tatzin; Absent: Anduri).

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Council / Agency Board adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm to its regular meeting on June 8, 2009. Mayor Tatzin asked that the June 8 meeting be adjourned in memory of Larry Hazard.

APPROVED:

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Don Tatzin, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Joanne Robbins, City Clerk